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L17: Entry 35 of 52   File: USPT   Aug 28, 2001

US-PAT-NO: 6282517
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6282517 B1
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TITLE: Real time communication of purchase requests

DATE-ISSUED: August 28, 2001

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Wolfe; Don P.	Irvine	CA		
Nottage; Douglas S.	Irvine	CA		
Waggoner; Kevin J.	Rialto	CA		
Nelson; Tim E.	Pomona	CA		

US-CL-CURRENT: 705/26; 705/27, 705/28, 705/36

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A method of communicating a purchase request to a dealer in a Data Center system having a system database, a buyer interface, and a dealer interface, wherein said buyer interface and dealer interface provide a remote interface to said Data Center, said buyer interface and dealer interface provide immediate access to said system database, said method comprising the acts of:

creating an exclusive database region for each of a plurality of participating dealers in said system database;

providing each of said plurality of dealers direct access to said exclusive database region over a computer network, wherein said access is through said dealer interface;

receiving said purchase request over a computer network from a potential buyer, said purchase request including product identification data and buyer

location information;

comparing said product identification data and said buyer location information with at least one of a plurality of records that are associated with at least one of said plurality of <u>dealers</u>;

identifying in response to said step of comparing at least one of said plurality of <u>dealers</u> to notify;

creating a <u>purchase request</u> record for said <u>purchase request</u>; and

communicating said <u>purchase request</u> to said identified <u>dealer,</u> said communicating includes storing said <u>purchase request</u> record into said exclusive <u>database</u> region for said identified <u>dealer</u> immediately upon creation of said <u>purchase request</u> record, and wherein said <u>purchase request</u> is accessed by the identified <u>dealer</u> via at least one web page that is provided by a server that is remote to the identified <u>dealer</u>.

2. The method as defined in claim 1 wherein said act of receiving said <u>purchase request</u> comprises receipt of a request that is transmitted through a plurality of web pages.

3. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said product identification data includes a vehicle make and a vehicle model.

4. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said <u>purchase request</u> records is either a new vehicle <u>purchase request</u> record or a used vehicle <u>purchase request</u> record.

5. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said <u>dealer</u> identification is based on a vehicle make specified in said product identification data and a zip code specified in said buyer location information.

6. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said <u>dealer</u> identification is based on a search of a used vehicle inventory for a vehicle specified in said product identification data.

7. The method as described in claim 6, wherein said search is further based on both a buyer search radius and a <u>dealer</u> search radius.

8. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said <u>dealer</u> identification is based on an identification number.

9. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said act of communicating includes the act of adding a new vehicle <u>purchase request</u> record to a new vehicle <u>purchase requests</u> field in a <u>dealer</u> record associated with said identified <u>dealer</u>.

10. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said act of communicating includes the act of adding a used vehicle <u>purchase request</u> record to a used vehicle <u>purchase requests</u> field in a <u>dealer</u> record associated with said identified <u>dealer</u>.

11. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said act of communicating includes the act of adding a new vehicle <u>purchase request</u> record to a list of new vehicle <u>purchase request</u> records.

12. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said act of communicating includes the act of adding a used vehicle <u>purchase request</u> record to a list of used vehicle <u>purchase request</u> records.

13. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said act of communicating includes the act of setting a <u>dealer</u> identification number field to a <u>dealer</u> identification number for said identified <u>dealer</u>.

14. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said act of communicating includes the acts of:

⊃

displaying a list of <u>purchase requests</u> to said identified <u>dealer</u>; and

refreshing said list to include a new <u>purchase request</u> immediately upon the creation of said new <u>purchase request</u>.

15. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said act of communicate includes sending an e-mail message to an e-mail message paging service.

16. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said act of communicating includes logically connecting a new purchase request record to a dealer record.

17. The method as described in claim 1, further comprising the act of receiving only one new vehicle purchase request from said buyer within a 48 hour period.

18. A purchase request communication system, wherein said purchase request is remotely entered by a potential buyer over a computer network, said purchase request communication system comprising:

a system database which provides an exclusive database region for each of a plurality of dealers;

an entry system which creates said purchase request, and which provides at least a first web page to said buyer;

a dealer management system which provides said plurality of dealers remote access into said exclusive database region via using at least a second web page; and

a processing system which creates a purchase request record for said purchase request, said processing system identifying which of a plurality of dealers based on said purchase request, said processing system immediately storing said purchase request record in said exclusive database region for said identified dealer.

19. The purchase request communication system as defined in claim 18, wherein said purchase request record is either a new vehicle purchase request record or a used vehicle purchase request record.

20. The purchase request communication system as defined in claim 18, wherein said dealer identification is based on a vehicle make and a zip code specified in said purchase request.

21. The purchase request communication system as defined in claim 18, wherein said dealer identification is determined in response to a search of a used vehicle inventory for a vehicle specified in said purchase request.

22. The method as described in claim 21, wherein said search is further based on both a buyer search radius and a dealer search radius.

23. The purchase request communication system as defined in claim 18, wherein said dealer identification is determined in response to an evaluation of an identification number.

24. The purchase request communication system as defined in claim 18, wherein said communication system communicates said purchase request to said dealer by adding a new vehicle purchase request record to a new vehicle purchase requests field in a dealer record associated with said dealer.

25. The purchase request communication system as defined in claim 18, wherein said communication system communicates said purchase request to said dealer by adding a used vehicle purchase request record to a used vehicle purchase requests field in a dealer record associated with said dealer.

26. The purchase request communication system as defined in claim 18, wherein said communication system communicates said purchase request to said dealer by adding a new vehicle purchase request record to a list of new vehicle purchase request records.

27. The purchase request communication system as defined in claim 18, wherein said communication system communicates said purchase request to said dealer by adding a used vehicle purchase request record to a list of used vehicle purchase request records.

28. The purchase request communication system as defined in claim 18, wherein said communication system communicates said purchase request to said dealer by setting a dealer identification number field to a dealer identification number for said identified dealer.

29. The purchase request communication system as defined in claim 18, wherein said communication system communicates said purchase request to said dealer by sending an e-mail message to an e-mail message paging service.

30. A purchase request communication system for communicating to at least one of a plurality of dealers a purchase request submitted by a potential buyer, said communication system having a system database, a buyer interface, and a dealer interface, said system database including an exclusive database region for each of said plurality of dealers, said communication system comprising:

means for receiving a purchase request over a computer network from a potential buyer, said purchase request including at least a product identification data and a buyer location information;

means for comparing said product identification data and said buyer location information with at least one of a plurality of records that are associated with at least one of said plurality of dealers;

means for identifying in response to said comparing means at least one of said dealers to notify;

means for creating a purchase request record for said purchase request; and

means for communicating said purchase request to said identified dealer, said communicating includes storing said purchase request record into said exclusive database region for said identified dealer immediately upon said formulating said purchase request record, and wherein said purchase request is accessed by the identified dealer via at least one web page that is provided by a server that is remote to the identified dealer.

31. The communication system as defined in claim 30, additionally comprising:

means for displaying a list of purchase requests to said identified dealer; and

means for refreshing said list to include a new <u>purchase request</u> immediately upon tie creation of said new <u>purchase request</u>.

32. The communication system as defined in claim 30, additionally comprising means for sending an e-mail message to an e-mail message paging service.

33. The communication system as defined in claim 30, wherein said <u>dealer</u> identification is based on both a buyer provided search radius and a <u>dealer</u> provided search radius.

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L17: Entry 35 of 52   File: USPT   Aug 28, 2001

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Waggoner; Kevin J.	Rialto	CA		
Nelson; Tim E.	Pomona	CA		

ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	TYPE CODE
autobytel.com, Inc.	Irvine	CA			02

APPL-NO: 09/ 231409   [PALM]
DATE FILED: January 14, 1999

INT-CL: [07] G06 F 17/60

US-CL-ISSUED: 705/26; 705/27, 705/28, 705/36
US-CL-CURRENT: 705/26; 705/27, 705/28, 705/36

FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 705/26, 705/37, 705/27, 705/28

PRIOR-ART-DISCLOSED:

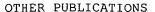U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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	PAT-NO	ISSUE-DATE	PATENTEE-NAME	US-CL
☐	5283731	February 1994	Lalonde et al.	
☐	5592375	January 1997	Salmon et al.	
☐	5671279	September 1997	Elgamal	
☐	5710887	January 1998	Chelliah et al.	
☐	5842178	November 1998	Giovannoli	
	5937391	August 1999	Ikeda et al.	705/14

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Akasie, Jacy; Want to buy a new car?; Forbes; v162; n13; p144-148, Sep. 1995.

ART-UNIT: 214

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Millin; V.

ASSISTANT-EXAMINER: Kanof; Pedro R.

ATTY-AGENT-FIRM: Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP

ABSTRACT:

A method and apparatus for formulating and submitting a purchase request over a computer network and making said purchase request available to a dealer immediately. A Data Center system has a system database, a buyer interface, and a dealer interface. The system database includes an exclusive database region for each participating dealer. A potential buyer submits a purchase request over a computer network to the Data Center system. The purchase request includes a product identification data and a buyer location information. The Data Center system further contains dealer information, product information, and the like. The Data Center system determines at least one appropriate dealer to receive the purchase request. The Data Center creates a purchase request record from the data and information provided in the purchase request. The Data Center then communicates the purchase request to the appropriate dealer by immediately storing the purchase request record into the appropriate dealer's exclusive database region. Thus, the purchase request record becomes immediately available to the appropriate dealer.

33 Claims, 17 Drawing figures

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Search History

DATE: Monday, December 15, 2003   Printable Copy   Create Case

Set Name side by side	Query	Hit Count	Set Name result set
DB=PGPB,USPT,USOC,EPAB,JPAB,DWPI,TDBD; PLUR=YES; OP=OR			
L36	5940807.uref.	10	L36
L35	5940807.pn.	2	L35
L34	707.clas.	18023	L34
L33	707/100	3937	L33
L32	709/217	4529	L32
L31	709.clas.	30303	L31
L30	705.clas.	24228	L30
L29	705/37	1873	L29
L28	705/28	1405	L28
L27	705/27	1879	L27
L26	705/26	4126	L26
L25	L23 and (dealer or merchant or seller)	45	L25
L24	L23 and dealer	4	L24

L23	L21 and (database or data with base or "data base")near storage	96	L23
L22	L21 and (database or data with base or "data base")	1561	L22
L21	purchase near requests	2289	L21
L20	purchase near requests near (database or data with base or "data base") near storage	1	L20

DB=USPT; PLUR=YES; OP=OR

L19	5283731.pn.	1	L19
L18	5285383.pn.	1	L18

DB=PGPB,USPT,USOC,EPAB,JPAB,DWPI,TDBD; PLUR=YES; OP=OR

L17	L16 and dealers	52	L17
L16	L15 and (database or data with base or "data base" with region)	356	L16
L15	L14 and purchase near request	396	L15
L14	705/26	4126	L14
L13	L11 and storage near (region or section or area)	30	L13
L12	L11 and storage near region	0	L12
L11	L10 and (dealer or seller or merchant)	734	L11
L10	l1 and (database or data with base or "data base")	1561	L10
L9	L8 and (dealer or seller or merchant)	0	L9
L8	l1 and stor$ near (database or data with base or "data base")near (regions or areas or sections)	3	L8
L7	l1 and stor$ near (database or data with base or "data base")	568	L7
L6	L5 and (dealer or seller or merchant)	19	L6
L5	L2 and (database or data with base or "data base") near (region or area or section)	32	L5
L4	L2 and (database or data with base or "data base") near region	4	L4
L3	L2 and database near region	4	L3
L2	L1 and stor$	1803	L2
L1	purchase near request	2289	L1

END OF SEARCH HISTORY